

**DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

**CABINET MEMBER**

**16 March 2017**

**Report of the Strategic Director for Adult Care**

**EXTENSION OF GRANT FUNDING IN 2017-18 FOR HARD OF HEARING SERVICES**

**ADULT SOCIAL CARE**

**1. Purpose of the Report**

To seek Cabinet Member approval to extend grant funding payment to the following organisations for 12 months with an end date of 31 March 2018.

- Communication Unlimited
- CamTAD Southern Derbyshire
- Hearing Help (Amber Valley)
- Deaf and Hearing Support (North Derbyshire CamTAD)

**2. Information and Analysis**

At the Cabinet meeting held on 20 September 2016 approval was given, following a consultation exercise to discontinue grant funding to services listed above. It was planned that the activity undertaken by these four grant aided services would then be undertaken by the following two new commissioned services:

- a British Sign Language Service
- Hard of Hearing Services

It was proposed that, following a procurement exercise for both services contracts would commence on 1 April 2017. However, it was not possible to undertake either procurement exercise during the time scale available. Consequently, Cabinet Member approval is now required for the current grant funding arrangement with the four organisations concerned to be extended until 31 March 2018 to ensure that hard of hearing services are available before the new provision commences. Details of the organisations concerned and the grant funding required is as follows: -

**Communication Unlimited** provides interpreting services for deaf people living within the County, thus enabling people full access to community activities. The level of grant funding required to cover the 12 month period ending 31 March 2018 is £38,750.

**CamTAD Southern Derbyshire** provides information on all aspects of deafness and demonstrations of equipment which may assist with hearing. They also offer deaf awareness talks, training and speech to text services. Funding primarily covers the cost of core activities. The level of grant funding required to cover the 12 month period ending 31 March 2018 is £19,866.

**Hearing Help (Amber Valley)** provides practical help, information and support by means of hearing aid servicing clinics, social groups, home visits, befriending services, loan of hearing equipment. The level of grant funding required to cover the 12 month period ending 31 March 2018 is £9,433. Hearing Help (Amber Valley) also receive grant funding from Southern Derbyshire CCG to assist with the provision of the above services. Following discussion the CCG has agreed to extend the grant funding they provide until 31 March 2018.

**Deaf and Hearing Support (North Derbyshire CamTAD)** provides information on all aspects of deafness and offer demonstrations of equipment which may assist with, for instance, hearing the TV, telephone, doorbell, smoke alarm, together with deaf awareness talks, training and speech to text services. Funding provided primarily assists with the provision of core activities. The level of grant funding required to cover the 12 month period ending 31 March 2018 is £29,888. Deaf and Hearing Support (North Derbyshire CamTAD) also receive grant funding from North Derbyshire CCG to assist with the provision of the above services. Following discussion the CCG has agreed to extend the grant funding they provide until 31 March 2018.

### **3. Financial Considerations**

If financial assistance is approved to support the activities of the organisations concerned during the period 1 April 2017 to 31 March 2018, the full cost of £97,937 will be met from the existing budgets.

### **4. Human Resources Considerations**

Any organisation providing services to children or vulnerable adults, approval of financial assistance is conditional on the existence within these organisations of appropriate statutory procedures assessing suitability to work with children or vulnerable adults.

## **5. Legal Considerations**

The Council is permitted to make such a payment under the “General Power of Competence” set out in the Localism Act 2011.

## **6. Social Value Considerations**

The services provided by the voluntary organisations identified in this paper all contribute towards adding value to a range of Council and health services provision ensuring that people who are deaf or who have hearing difficulties are aware of services and how to get the best use from them, thus enhancing their independence, reducing social isolation and promoting their wellbeing.

## **7. Equal Opportunity Considerations**

Payments to any organisation are dependent upon the insistence that the organisation adheres to County Council Equal Opportunity policies.

## **8. Other Considerations**

In preparing this report the relevance of the following factors has been considered: Human Rights, health, environmental, transport, property, and crime and disorder considerations.

## **9. Background Papers**

Cabinet Reports of 20 September 2016: Procurement of Hard of Hearing Service and Procurement of British Sign Language Service.

## **10. Key Decision**

No

## **11. Is it required that the Call-in period be waived in respect of the decisions being proposed within this report?**

No

## **12. Officer’s Recommendation**

The Cabinet Member approves the extension of grant funding as detailed in the report for up to a 12 month period from 1 April 2017 to 31 March 2018 to: -

- Communication Unlimited
- CamTAD Southern Derbyshire
- Hearing Help (Amber Valley)

- Deaf and Hearing Support (North Derbyshire CamTAD)

**Joy Hollister**  
**Strategic Director – Adult Care**